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restage to Foreign Countries added. THE SUN, New York City.

The Zone of Protection.

Bir RICHARD WEBSTER, In his argument before the Paris Tribunal of Arbitration, has just been insisting that to prohibit pelagic scaling for a distance of twenty miles from the Pribylov Islands would give ample protection to the fur seals.

In this view Sir RICHARD, with the privilege of an advocate, makes the smallest possible concession for his side. Very likely our representatives go to the other extreme in their demands for a zone of protection.

The question is one of fact, depending on the production of evidence relating to the habits and necessities of the animals. Secretary BLAINE is said to have argued in a conference at Washington, that the mother seals swim out as far as fifty miles in search of food. Other distances spoken of in the course of the controversy have been forty and sixty miles. It is sometimes insisted that seals have been seen swimming a hundred miles from the Pribylov Islands, the evidence being that they had come cut from those islands.

The formal proposition of Lord Salis-BUBY on this subject, when a modus vivendi was under consideration, was, if we rightly remember, that the zone of protection should be thirty miles wide. Great Britain is making arrangements for a modus with Russia, and perhaps may have already concluded them, on the basis of a protective zone around the Commander Islands and along the Russian const. It was announced at St. Petersburg that a Russian Commission appointed to examine the subject found that territorial jurisdiction for seal protection purposes should extend thirty leagues from the shore, but it is improbable that Great Britain would concede that distance.

The great point, however, is not whether the zone should be ten or thirty leagues wide, but whether there should be any zone at all beyond that of the single marine league which measures the jurisdiction ordinarily conceded to a nation. The moment the necessity for such an increase is conceded, the question becomes purely one of degree, determinable by testimony as to the facts in the case. It would be a distinct gain to show that the three-mile limit, a purely arbitrary standard at best, is no longer a hard and fast rule for all cases. This was clearly in Mr. BLAINE's mind when he sought to show, in the case of the island of St. Helena and in several other Instances, that Great Britain herself had insisted on an extension of the ordinary three-mile limit of jurisdiction, in exceptional cases where the marine league would furnish no adequate protection whatever.

This is a part of the American case at Paris to-day; and when we find even Sir RICHARD WEBSTER arguing that, if any sone is needed, which he does not admit, wenty miles is radius enough, instead of thirty or fifty or one hundred miles, there is ground for surmising that our representatives may not come away wholly empty-handed. It is the great principle of extending the three-mile limit of jurisdiction at all that is at stake, and how much it shall be extended is a question of detail.

It is true that Great Britain does not con cede this extension as a matter of right, even if it be one of expediency; and the question of right is one of the points to be determined. The American argument is, in part, that the standard of the marine league being purely arbitrary, and fixed with a view to the protection of territory and property, the carrying out of this purpose might make an exception to the rule as good law as the rule itself. There is something preposterous in holding to conventional rules made generations of centuries ago, when even the facts demanding an exception to them at the present time were not known. But even should Great Britain gain a nominal victory on this point, the power lodged in the arbiters is such that a practically decisive oninion can be rendered by them as to what sort of zone the protection of the fur seals really demands. It will not be surprising to find them taking a liberal view of this matter: and, accordingly, though our representatives went to Paris heavily handlcapped by the terms of arbitration, as we have repeatedly shown, they may yet bring away some practical fruits of importance in the actual protection of the seals.

The Lizzie Borden Case. It is in a New England town or small city, perhaps, that a great murder trial rises to the highest degree of dramatic Interest. The simplicity of the process and the surroundings, the comparatively uneventful character of ordinary life in the community, the familiar acquaintance of many of those concerned either as actors or spectators, make a background against which the individuality of persons and the tragic reality of incidents come out sharp and strong. A few murder cases of this sort in New England during the past half century have impressed themselves with peculiar vividness on the imagination of the general public. The LIZZIE BORDEN trial: now drawing near to a conclusion that can already be foretold, will stand emong these as in many respects the most notable and memorable.

With the possible exception of the civil case involving the question of HENRY WARD BEECHER'S guilt of adultery, no trial has ever been so fully narrated in so many newspapers, or followed in all of its particulars with keoner interest by intelligent people throughout the country. We can add nothing in this place to the analysis of the testimony presented from day to day by the accomplished reporter to whom the readers of THE SUN owe a juster understanding of the strength or weakness of the evidence against Miss Borden, and a clearer idea of the prisoner's characteristics, than they could have acquired from sitting in the New Bedford court room. Few human beings outside of the Fall River police force can have wanted to believe the unfortunate girl guilty of the ferocious crime of which she was accused. Even if the State had succeeded in establishing her guilt beyond reasonable doubt, the double murder of Aug. 4 of last year would still have been wrapped in the densest mystery. psychologic though not legal. With the criminal discovered, it would still have remained one of the incomprehensible crimes in history. But so inexplicable seemed the murders except upon the theory that they were committed by the daughter of the household, so extraordinary the web of cirsumstance surrounding her on that day I they have never been found; either to re-

and afterward, so positive the assertions of the prosecution as to what they would be to prove, that many found it harder to cheve that the local Dogberries and the District Attorney's office had made a frightful mistake than that a Christian young woman of unblemished reputation and blameless, if narrow life had suddeply turned into a flend from hell.

That is why each successive development at the trial, if at all unfavorable to the accused, has weighed for more than it was really worth as against her. The effect upon the reporters present in court, and through them upon the public mind, has been, as usual in perplexing cases of circumstantial evidence, an alternation of conflicting doubts. Behind the flimsiest circumstance pointing to Lizzie Borden's guilt-and the circumstances making that way have been numerous if not importantthere has been present all the time the great question: If she did not kill her stepmother and her father, who did? Who could have got into the house and killed them? It is not the business of the Court o ascertain that. It is not the business of Miss Borden's counsel to find the answer to that question. The simplest way, of course, to establish the prisoner's innocence would be for them to produce the actual criminal; but their failure to prove that the butchery was the work of some homicidal maniac of extraordinary cunning, or of some deep plotter with motives now undreamed of, or even of some escaped brute monster of superhuman strength and ferocity, like the orang-outang in Poe's tale, does not prove Lizzie Borden's guilt. The business of her counsel is not to solve the mystery of the murders, but to show the insufficiency of the evidence connecting her with them.

This they have done with a skill which commands the admiration of lawyers and laymen alike. It has been a cross-examiner's trial throughout. Not many witnesses were called by the Commonwealth whose testimony did not in the end count more toward making Miss Bonden a free woman again, than toward sending her to the gallows. A chain of circumstantial evidence is strong only if it is strong in every necessary link. A single weak point, and it breaks and is useless. The chain tested at New Bedford during the past twelve days has proved fragile indeed, not merely at one place, but in almost every link. As point after point relied upon by the prosecution gave way under the masterly interrogatories of Mr. Robinson, who has demonstrated his own genius for crossexamination by transforming a long string of Government witnesses into witnesses for the defence, surprise at the weakness of the case against Miss Bonden grew steadily to amazement that upon such slender evidence the life of any man or woman could have been deliberately attempted by means of a judicial proceeding.

The prosecutors have endeavored to show that Miss BORDEN had a motive for the double crime, and exclusive opportunity to commit it: that the weapon with which the butchery was done had been found; and that the prisoner's behavior on the day of the murders, and her subsequent statements and actions, constituted conclusive evidence of her guilt.

The motive, so far as it appears in the testimony, is confined to a property grievance against the stepmother, leading to a failure of cordial relations with the murdered woman. Behind this, and necessary to give it any importance, is the vague idea of a discontent in Lizzie Bor-DEN's mind with her home surroundings, so strong as to impel her to back both her stepmother and her father to death; despatching the stepmother first, in order that the entire fortune of her father might pass directly to her sister and herself, and no part be diverted to Mrs. ABBY BORDEN'S relatives. The lack of cordial relations in the family was not shown with sufficient distinctness to warrant a decree in a suit for marital separation for incompatibility of temper, much less to afford ground for assuming a murderous intent. The testimony to that effect consisted of gossip and the repetition of pettish remarks made at times by Miss Bonden about that modern nations are inexorably bound her stepmother, indicating an attitude on her part toward Mrs. BORDEN precisely like that which is held by thousands and tens of thousands of grown-up daughters in New England or elsewhere, toward the women their fathers have married.

> But even if the Government had proved that LIZZIE BORDEN regarded her stepmother with a hatred leading irresistibly to murder, the fact would not account for the second crime on the morning of August 4. Absolutely no reason has been presented for supposing that the girl did not entertain toward her father the most affectionate and filial sentiments. From the prosecution's point of view there is an utter absence of motive for the murder of Andrew Jackson Borden by his daughter. The stepmother once out of the way, there is no conceivable reason why the father should be killed. The alleged motive of hatred ceases to operate when Mrs. Bon-DEN's head has been hacked and hewn to pleces. The motive of discontent with home conditions is gone, for the source of the alleged discontent has been disposed of. The motive of avarice is gone, for the estate of the aged father is now certain to descend in its entirety to the daughters. Nor, finally, did the killing of Mr. BORDEN contribute in the slightest degree to the concealment of the first crime, or to the safety of the criminal. It added immeas-

urably to the probabilities of immediate

detection and ultimate conviction.

The theory of the Fall River police and of the prosecution assumes that Lizzie Bon-DEN is strong and bold and brutal enough to fell her stepmother with a hatchet, and then, standing astride of the prostrate woman, to how away at her skull and neck, striking seventeen more crushing blows, delivered right and left with free arm as a woodchopper swings his axe; that she is cunning enough to remove immediately from her person every trace of the blood which must have deluged her; that she is so hardened and impassive that in full sight of the corpse of her first victim she was able to laugh and jest as her father and intended second victim entered the house, when a whim on his part, or the most trifling accident, might have led him up stairs: that she is monster enough to lure her father to the sofs and send him to sleep with his head in a position favorable for an attack from the doorway; that having tranquilly ironed handkerchiefs while waiting for the old man to go to sleep, she approached him with her hatchet and slaughtered him as she had butchered his wife, striking ten swinging blows, right and left again like a woodchopper's, and so furiously dealt that six of the ten strokes cut through the skull to the old man's brain. Continuing the prosecution's theory, this Sunday school teacher, become a Fury, had the incredible coolness and nerve and swift and sure intelligence to remove a second time from her person and clothes every trace of the butchery; to conceal her blood-stained garments where

move by an elaborate cleansing process every microscopic spot of blood from the hatchet or axe she had employed, or to hide that weapon so artfully that no search has discovered it; and all of this within a period of from eight to thirteen or fourteen minutes after the murder of her father, and with the servant, BRIDGET SULLIVAN, likely to come in upon her at any moment.

Now, it is as certain as any psychological proposition can be, that a young woman in LIZZIE BORDEN'S position, supposing her to have planned and executed the first murder precisely as the prosecutors assert, would have been led on to the second crime only by one of three motives. The insane joy of killing might have taken possession of her temporarily and impelled her to further butchery; but in that case the second victim would have been the SULLIVAN girl, whom a word could have summoned from the yard. A vague idea of self-protection might have suggested the destruction of a possible witness against herself; in that case the second victim would have been the servant girl right at hand, and not the father, away from the house probably for all of the forenoon. The third possibility is in the line of the prosecution's theory. The murder of the father might have been contemplated and planned along with that of the stepmother, and the brutal mode of execution might have been deliberately adopted in order to free herself from suspicion and to lay the foundation for the dea, now actually entertained by so many persons in spite of the Fall River police, that some unknown homicidal maniac had entered the house and departed unseen; but in that case a murderer as intelligent and selfpossessed as Miss Bonden is alleged to have shown herself, would certainly have carried her arrangements for self-protection a little further than the prosecution claims. She would not have attacked the first victim at a time of the morning when an interval of two or three hours, every moment of which threatened to bring exposure and to prevent the completion of her enterprise, must elapse before the second victim came within reach of her hatchet. And when she did the deed, she would have provided plausible traces connecting the crime with an outsider, at least as artfully devised as the means she is said to have adopted to disconnect it from herself. Particularly would this be true, if the motive of the double murder was the future enjoyment of riches and domestic tranquillity.

The only motive firmly established by the testimony at New Bedford is the motive of the police to make a case against Lizzie BORDEN at any cost. The bias and unscrupulousness of these officers of the law have been demonstrated from beginning to end. Within a few hours after the discovery of the crime they had determined to fasten the guilt upon the daughter of the house. They have shifted their assertions in regard to details of the crime a dozen times, but every time to make new facts fit their one theory of the daughter's guilt. They have woven the greater part of the web of circumstances which at the beginning of the trial seemed to enfold the girl. Whatever there is in the point of exclusive opportunity exists simply because the Fall River police have confined their investigations to a single trail. They have produced one weapon after another as the weapon of murder. The greater part of Miss Borden's subsequent behavior confirming the theory of her guilt, rests upon the testimony of the police officers and those whom they directly influence. After the proved falsifications, the proved contradictions, the proved suppressions of facts favorable to the prisoner, have been eliminated from the case as it was presented in the opening speech of the prosecution, something remains of that case, but it is not much. It is decidedly not enough to prove LIZZIE BORDEN'S guilt. It is not enough to establish her guilt beyond a reasonable doubt. It is hardly enough to warrant a reasonable doubt of her innocence.

If the verdict of the jury acquits, it should be accepted as the full and final solution of the question of Miss Borden's guilt. Barring the incomprehensible anfractuosities of the juryman's intellect, there is little doubt to-day as to what that verdict will be. The fact that the crime still remains a mystery, and may remain a mystery forever, should not so influence a single honest mind as to help cloud the remainder of this poor girl's life. Her ordeal of horrible torture has already lasted for more than ten months.

The German Elections.

From the returns of the general election which took place in Germany on Thursday, it is impossible to determine with precision the relative strength of parties in the next Reichstag. A second balloting will be required in an unusually large proportion of the constituencies: in at least a third, and possibly a half of the whole number. At a second balloting under the German electoral law, only the two candidates who received the most votes on the first trial can be voted for; and the obvious effect of this provision in each constituency will be to concentrate all the friends of the Army bill on the side of one of these two candidates. One might be able to predict the result if one knew the number of scattering votes in each disputed district, but such minor details are not furnished us. It must also be borne in mind that, although the RICH-TER Radicals would under ordinary circumstances vote on the second balloting for a Socialist candidate against a Conservative in order to defeat the military project, this natural impulse may now be checked by exasperation at the number of seats wrested from them by the Socialists in the cities and large towns.

Indecisive as the first balloting has been and incomplete as are the returns from it it is still possible to draw some definite deductions, if the data are subjected to a close inspection. It is evident, for instance, that the Conservatives, whose rural strongholds are always the last to be heard from, will fully retain the strength they had in"the last Reichstag, and are even likely to exceed it. As the Conservatives, Free Conservatives, Agrarian Conservatives, Anti-Semite Conservatives, and Anti-Semites taken together, were successful in thirty three out of the one hundred and four districts which, on Friday morning. were reported as having held decisive elections, these five factions, all of which sup port the Army bill, should be able to mus ter in the new assembly rather more than the ninety-one members that they collectively sent to the last. Of the 104 seats oc cupled by the Clericals, the main body of that party, under the leadership of Dr. LIEBER, seems certain to retain upward of ninety, and professes confidence in its ability to carry 100. It seems to be admitted on all hands that the number of Socialist members will be increased from 36 to about 60. The Freisinnige party in the last Reichstag had 68 members and the Peo ple's party 10. Instead of this aggregate of 78, the new Radical People's party organized by RICHTER, will be lucky if it eventually returns 58; so much, at least

can be predicted from the first balloting, in

which the friends of RICHTER suffered great reverses. The National Liberals, who had 43 sents in the last Reichstag, were not expected to control more than 30 in the next, but they proved unexpectedly successful on Thursday, and seem likely eventually to return about 40 members. The number of members that will ultimately be elected by the two new parties favorable to an amended Army bill: the independent Clericals and the Radical Unionists, cannot, as yet, be even guessed; but in neither case is it likely to exceed 10. The other small factions, such as the Poles, the Alsace-Lorrainers, the Guelphs, and the unclassified independents, may safely be credited with about the same number of votes as they controlled in the last Parliament.

Now, asseuming the substantial correctness of these estimates of the strength of the LIEBER Clericals (95), of the Richterists or Radical People's party (58), and of the Socialists (60), we have manifestly a considerable preponderance of votes against the Government: for a majority of the Reichstag is 199, and the three hostile parties mentioned muster 213. The Radical People's party, the most uncertain of the three elements, may even fall to carry more than 48 seats, and still the inexorable opponents of the Government would number 203. It must also be remembered that of the Guelphs, Alsace-Lorrainers, and unclassified independents, a part, at all events, are certain to vote with those who oppose the Army bill in any form. The Government, indeed, may be able to obtain rather more votes for the Army bill, subjected to certain amendments, than it was able to control in the last Reichstag. But the number will fall materially short of a majority, On the face of the returns the Kaiser has

received a sharp rebuff at the hands of the German people, and no probable outcome of the second balloting will much lighten the blow. He might have secured the passage of the Army bill in the last Reichstag if Chancellor Caphryi had been permitted to carry out the plan of accepting Major HINZE's amendment. But the young Emperor fancied himself a better politician than his Minister, and laid great stress upon the influence which his known approval of the original bill would exercise on the electors. It turns out that he has no influence at all, and it now looks as if it would be impossible to carry the military project, even if saddled with the HINZE amendment, through the next Parliament. But, from the Emperor's point of view, the disclosure of the little deference paid in Germany to his opinions is not the most unwelcome outcome of the contest which he recklessly provoked. The existence of monarchical institutions may seem threatened by the amazing gains of the Socialists in the popular vote, and by the sudden expansion of their party in the Reichstag to a position of great power. This is a political event of incomparably more importance than the defeat of an Army bill; and we shall recur to it hereafter when complete returns of the first balloting are at hand.

India and the World's Wheat Supply. India is a most interesting country, and especially interesting to Americans, as it is the one important competitor in supplying the world with cotton, and our sharpest competitor, after Russia, for the world's wheat market; hence it behooves Americans, against whom the balance of trade is running by reason of the exceptionally low price at which enormous quantities of wheat, as well as of cotton, have been exported, to know what is India's wheat-exporting power, and whether it is likely to increase or decline in the near future.

The opinion is general that the people of India live exclusively upon rice; but, speaking broadly, the food of the 290,000,000 inhabiting British India and the feudatory States s neither rice nor wheat, but millet. Only in Bengal, Burmah, and some isolated districts, is rice the staple food, and while the more opulent classes of the upper Gangetie plain est much unleavened wheaten bread, yet even in the wheat-growing districts, so great is the poverty of the masses, that there are provinces where but four per cent. of the population consume wheat. Millet is the principal food crop from Tanjore in the dietary of the Hindu has not changed since the days of STRABO other than by additions of small proportions of maize and potatoes.

Although wheat culture may not have originated in India, yet that country has, with its teeming population, fertile soils, and favoring climate, held first rank among wheat-growing countries until near the middle of this century, and now yields precedence only to America. France, and Russia, and still holds third place as an exporter. But for the extreme and increasing poverty of the Indian cultivators the 14 per cent. of the crop now exported would be consumed at home by a population much the greater part of whom rarely or never

have sufficient food. Indian exportation of wheat upon any considerable scale began about twenty years since, upon the abrogation of an export duty, concurrent extension of Indian rallways, and the diversion of the Indo-European trade to the Suez Canal. Although it followed the opening of these highways, it was by no means principally due thereto, but to the imperative necessity forcing the ryot, or cultivator, to part with such products as would bring the silver required by the tax gatherer. That such has been the cause impelling the exportation of food required by the rapidly augmenting population hardly admits of doubt, as the population, exclusive of the additions made by the annexation of upper Burmah and other districts, has increased 34,000,000, or 13.5 per cent., since 1881, while the area under food crops (also exclusive of the annexed districts) has increased less than four per cent. The popular belief is that England has

saused the construction of Indian railways for the express purpose of extending the culture of wheat and cotton in order to meet British requirements and to render the United Kingdom independent of foreign sources of supply; but while the effect of such construction may have been in this direction, it was not one of the proximate motives, these having been the improvement of the economic condition of India, an enhancement of the revenue, and the ability to better meet the recurring famines; the primary object being strategic and political

and with almost sole regard to India. The Hon. Mr. DEARIN, Minister of Water Supply for the colony of Victoria, tells us, in "Irrigated India" (London, 1893):

"Almost every year witnesses a stress of want in on or more parts of the peninsula, and it is fortunate
when this can be coped with out of the superabundance obtained in more favored districts. It is under
this horrible pressure of human suffering that the
English Government in India has adopted the policy of constructing irrigation works and railways with loan money. The first provides food with certainty every year, while the railways enable their surplus to be conveyed to the starving."

Indian wheat exports do not result from the production of a surplus, but rather from the necessities of the ryot, as was indicated by Lord Lawrence, the Governor-General, when he said this:

"India is really a very poor country. The actual condition of the masses of the people is a bare, \$\textit{\begin{align*} 2 \text{ of the people is a bare, \$\text{\text{ of the people is a

might say a miserable, existence. We, its rulers, are at our wits' end to devise new sources of revenue. Lord RIPON, when Governor-General, said:

"The poverty of the people of India is a fact that is J. SEYMOUR KEAY, in "The Spoliation of

India," says: production has been repeatedly exploded with regard to India. In the midst of great families in India exsorts of food have not only continued but actually necreased in volume from the districts affected; con-sequently the foreign drain is simply met by stinting the food of her people more and more,"

Mr. J. Geppes, an experienced officer of the Bengal Civil Service, testifled as follows before the committee inquiring into the Orissa famine, speaking of the starving peasants having to sell their food to meet the land tax, which virtually is the rent:

"Increasing exports are by no means a conclusive test of the prosperity of limin; often the very re-verse of prosperity, because the exports are largely compulsory. The province of Orissa was depleted of produce which was exported to pay the Government taxes. The increase of crops intended for export, such as cotton, oplum, and indigo, interferes with the necessary production of food for the people,

"The enhancement of the price of food is very largely due to the necessity of deporting a great deal of the country's produce to pay for the loss in the Government's guaranteeing the dividends of the ratiways."

The late Sir James Carro, one of the British Commission to inquire into the famine of 1876-7 that carried off 5,250,000 people, in officially reporting upon the condition of India subsequent to the construction of many thousand miles of railways there, said this:

"It is very remarkable that the doubling of the (Indian) external trade during part of the same time (1870-80) put forth as a proof of the prosperity of agri-culture, appears to have had no benedical effect upon the land revenue, which only increased from \$105, 000,000 tp \$108,000,000 in the ten years. May this not rather show that the railways are carrying off more than is safe for the agricultural class to part with "

As the rate of the land tax is seldom or never lowered, but often increased, in India, such an increase of the revenue would indicate that the area under cultivation had increased less than three per cent., although population increased much more in the period named

In discussing the constant danger of famine among the Indian peoples in his 'India: The Land and the People," Sir James says this:

"The people, as a rule, live so close upon the edge of want that constant watchfulness (upon the part of those charged with their government) is necessary." And in speaking of the district of Ulwar, with its 780,000 people, he tells us:

"There are three classes of people in this State, as distinguished by their food, in the proportion of four, sixteen, and eighty in each 100. The first (4 per cent.) consume, without wist, milk-porridge, ghi, sugar, and good flour. The second (16 per cent.) have butter milk-porridge, a little ghi, no sugar, and only coarse grain. The third (80 per cent.) have only water-por-ridge and coarse grain. Coolies (laborers) earn 6 cents day, carpenters 12 cents, and masons 15 cents."

The Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal recently said:

"Half our agricultural population never know from year's end to year's end what it is to have their hunger fully satisfied."

The author of "Irrigated India" remarks: "The pressure of war and despotism have been removed, but the pressure of population remains. There are in Madras (Presidency) 15,000,000 people who live upon an average of one half-penny per day, the earn-ings of a family of five persons amounting to but eighteen pence per week."

India's greatest statistical authority, Sir W. W. HUNTER, long prominently identifled with the government of that country, says in "England's Work in India:" "Fully one-fifth of the people of India go through

their entire lives on insufficient food;" And in his "Indian Empire" we are told "The Pamine Commissioners reported in 1880 that

pver 0,000,000 of the peasant holdings of Bengal, or wo-thirds of the whole, averaged from two to three acres apiece. Allowing only four persons to the holding, for men, women, and children, this represents population of 24,000,000 struggling to live off 15,000. OOO acres, or a little over half an acre apiece.
"We see, therefore, in India, a dense population of husbandmen. Wherever their numbers exceed one to

the acre, or 640 to the square mile, the struggle for ex istence becomes hard. At half an acre apiece that struggle is terribly hard. • • • If all the poores classes of India ate two full meals every day, the sur lus for export would be much less than now." After discussing and conceding the grad-

ual and general deterioration of the soils of India, by reason of continued cropping without fertilization, Sir W. W. HUNTER says: "Wheat land in the Northwest Provinces that now gives but fourteen bushels an acre yielded nineteen in

"The Administration for the Provinces of the Punish" for 1881-2 reports: "The increase of the area under crops for experta ton has caused a decrease of that under barley and

grain, which form the principal food of the mass of the opulation." In the report of the "Deccan Ryots Commission" is found the census of 219 villages, showing that in consequence of the diminished fertility of the soil, the number of cattle, sheep, and goats had decreased 19 per cent. in thirty years, and the Commis-

"It will thus be seen that while increasing population demands more from the land than it yielded thirty years ago, the conditions of agriculture have not tended to increase its fertility."

sion tells us:

A potent cause of the diminishing product of the fields of India is to be found in the fact that the draught animals are exclusively cattle. Sir James Caird said there s not a cart horse in India, and the only fuel available, alike in town and rural district, outside a few large cities, is the dropings of cattle. This precludes the employment of the natural fertilizer, and others are unavailable or wholly unknown.

Probably the most direct cause of the unexampled poverty of the Indian populations is that practice, as old as Hindu civilization. of dividing the property, or right of occupancy, equally among the sons. The consequence is stated by Sir JAMES CAIRD;

"The land revenue declines for the plain reason that The land revenue declines for the pian reason that no limit is placed to the subdivision of property, and thereby every encouragement is given to the increase of population. By the limit law of subdivision among male children, an estate of 100 acres held by one man may be reduced in three generations to holdings of rec-lourths of an acre."

And in his "History of India" we find EL-PHINSTONE Saying:

"The minute suidivision of inheritances is pseu-liar to the Hinius, and it is that which most strikes an inquirer into the causes of the abject condition of the greater part of them." So effective has been this minute subdi-

vision of the soil in causing an abnormal redundancy of population, that even in good years the produce of the more populous districts merely suffices to keep soul and body together, and with each recurring famine greater and greater numbers are killed off until population is thus reduced to a parity with the means of subsistence. Nor is there any other mode of relieving the congestion. So immobile is the mass, and so malterable the Hindu usage that even the despotic rulers of the native feudatory States are afraid to attempt restriction.

Fully to understand India's position as an exporter of wheat we must consider the methods of culture, the relative cost of production, the area devoted, now and heretofore, to wheat growing, and the possibility of its extension or restriction by reason of the requirements of the inhabitants for other food stuffs.

From time to time, certainly as far back as the invasion of ALEXANDER, Indian administrations have undergone radical changes by conquest, but each new ruler

ship of the land, yet to an enormous revenuoin the shape of a land tax that has absorbed from one-sixth of the gross product under the laws of MENU to a third, and then a half, in times preceding the Mussulman era; and after the Mohammedan conquest there followed an enormous increase in the tax, the formula being, "All the traffic will bear." So liberal a prince as ARBAR is credited with a decree that ran thus:

"There shall be left for every man who cultivates his land as much as he requires for his own support till the next crop be reached, and that of his family, and for seed. This much shall be jeft him; what remain

is land tax, and shall go to the public treasury." This is the single tax expressed in unmistakable terms, and it is far clearer than anything which has emanated from later

advocates of that pernicious system. The latest conquerors of India appear to have improved upon AKBAR's methods, according to a Parliamentary report:

"In consequence of the changes in roduced by the Mohammedan conquest, and the many abuses which later times have established, the share really enjoyed by the ryota was often reduced to a sixth, and but sellom exceeded a fifth."

Varying systems of land tenure exist in

India, yet they all resolve themselves Into the Government as a landlord, with the cultivator having a hereditary and vendible right of occupancy, from which he can be dispossessed only upon failure to pay the land tax. Prior to British rule this tax was largely paid in kind, and the change to a fixed money charge has been the cause of many of the ryot's woes. When payable in kind the tax was graduated by the harvest while now, no matter how complete the failure, he must find the sliver demanded. In case of failure the amount nominally remains the same as in seasons of full yield yet, in fact, it is enhanced enormously by the ryot's having to apply to the village usurer, whose rule is to "take all he has." In other words, in seasons of failure the measure of the additions to the ryot's burden by the substitution of a money charge for a tax paid in kind is the full amount of such charge plus the usurious interest paid; and this addition comes when the cultivator's revenue is nothing.

In consequence of the conversion of a tax in kind, proportioned to the year's harvest, to a fixed money payment, due at a time when the cultivator's means have been reduced in whole or in part, coupled with that other diminution of resources resulting from subdivisions of the holding, the miserably poor peasant is sunk to the lowest depths of misery, and is necessarily forced to part with a progressively greater proportion of the food that should be reserved for the sustenance of himself and family.

Indian agricultural methods are identical with those of the earliest historical period They are little likely to change, as the hold ings are too small to admit of the use of costly modern implements. Could the ryot afford their purchase and use, no greater calamity could befall the population, as no other employment is possible for more than 170,000,000 out of the 290,000,000 that people India. Less than six per cent live in towns, and many of the so-called towns are but aggregations of agricultural villages. Were it possible to substitute labor-saving devices, it would involve enforced idleness and starvation for many millions of the peasantry. Hence there has been no attempt on the part of India's rulers to lessen the cost of production by substituting agricultural machinery for the cheap and over-abundant human muscle, and there will be none.

With unskilled labor at from three to eight cents a day, so inefficient is that of India, where the harvesting is done by a diminutive, underfed creature, sitting upon his haunches and using a six-inch iron sickle, and where in planting, the seed is dribbled by hand into a furrow made by an ironshod stick, that the actual money value of the labor involved in producing an acre of wheat has been officially estimated, in the Northwest Provinces and Oude, to be \$0.17 on irrigated lands and \$5.07 on lands not irrigated. This exceeds by fully 25 per cent. the labor cost of growing wheat in the trans-Mississippi regions, where the yield is 13.5 bushels an acre as against 9.5 fn India

An investigation of the cost of producing wheat in Kansas, recently undertaken by the Kansas State Board of Agriculture. shows that the labor involved in preparing the ground, sowing, harvesting, and threshing the wheat, costs, on the average, \$3.86 per acre as against \$5.07 on the non-irrigable lands of the Gangetic plains. In other words, the value of the labor involved in the production of a bushel of wheat in India is 53 cents as against 30 cents in Minnesota, the Dakotas, or Kansas, while the Indian, with his crude mode of sowing, plants a half more seed than the American with his drill. To this labor cost must be added the value of the seed, either the landtax of India or the interest on the investment in America, and the cost of hauling to the market, this last being greater in America than in India. Valuing the Indian ryot's labor at five cents a day, the cost of merely cutting an acre of wheat is 60 cents, while it is done by contract throughout the West for 50 cents. So little does the ryot cut in a day that he usually carries the product of his labor home on his head.

The amount of labor involved in the production of an acre of wheat in India is so great as to more than neutralize its apparent cheapness; and, were it not for the value of the straw, of which no account is taken in the West, where there is no other forage, and also for the fact that wheat is grown as a second or winter crop, its production in India at present prices would involve great loss, and Indian wheat would probably cease to trouble the commercial waters. It is true that the Indian ryot is receiving for his wheat more than his American competitor receives, by reason of the fall in the price of silver elsewhere, while in the interior of India sliver has lost nothing of its purchasing or tax-paying power.

So little does the wheat area of India change, that the term normal, as applied to the area, has here come into use. The only change in the acreage sown during the last fifteen years has been such as resulted from adverse climatic conditions at seed time, and there seems little probability of other change except such as may be forced by the necessity for an extension of the area devoted to food products for domestic use; an area now altogether too small to meet the augmenting requirements of the rapidly increasing population.

It is officially estimated that the uncuiti-

vated arable lands of India exceed 99,000,000

acres; but much of this is dense deltaic jungle or thin arid soil that will no more than repay the cost of cultivation, leaving nothing for land tax. Other considerable portions are in the thinly inhabited mountain districts, largely covered with heavy forest growths. At best the development of all these lands will be slow. The author of "Irrigated India," who takes an optimistic view of India's capabilities, estimates that but 5,000,000 out of the 99,000,000 acres are susceptible of irrigation, although he is of the opinion, from personal observation, that large tracts of the non-irrigable lands may be gradually brought under cultivation. Therefrom he estimates a possible inhas succeeded, if not to the actual owner- I crease in the exportable residue of wheat of

30 per cent. in fifteen years. This would indicate possible annual additions to the exports of some 700,000 bushels, or sufficient to provide for 180,000 out of the 3,500,000 souls which Europe annually adds to the bread-eating population. On the other hand, there are those in India who contend that the increase of the population is so great, and the growing pressure upon the means of subsistence so frightful, that all exportation of food must cease within the ten years, which will add 35,000,000 to 40,-000,000 to the mouths to be filled.

The following table shows the extent and variation of the wheat production and exportation from India during the period for which official data of production can be

found: Acres harrentel. 1883-4	Parkels prediced, 251,091,000 290,150,000 258,318,000 260,882,000 287,522,000	Punkels exported, 79, 203,000 29, 586,000 31, 329,000 41, 538,000 20, 271,000 B2,874,000
1888-925,912,000 1880-9094,778,000	287,522,000	82,874,000 25,764,000
1890-1726.576,000	258,704,000 203,168,000	26,080,00 0 58,972,000
1891-2 24,088,000 Averages, 26, 292,000	248,958,000	85,848,000

While the area under wheat in 1891-2 would seem to indicate a decline in culture, such is not the fact, as the reduction in acres sown was wholly due to adverse atmospheric conditions at seedtime, and about the normal acreage was planted in the following year. There certainly has, however, been no expansion during fifteen years. The competition of India in the wheat markets has apparently reached its maximum, and a decline is by no means mprobable.

The Kansas City Journal publishes some interesting intelligence concerning the Hon-STERLING MORTON, Secretary of Agriculture: "I have a notion to abolish the whole d-d bust

ness,' said Secretary Moston to-day, when speaking of the microscopists' work in thirty-eight packing plants throughout the country.

"I have about concluded that it costs more than it is

worth, and that it is a fraud.
"The whole thing is organized on the wrong princt

ple,' added the Secretary. "He was condemning the system of meat inspection that was organized by Secretary Ross, and was referred to by the late Senator Plumas one of the grandest triumphs for the farming element of the country ever

nplished by any Administration." We do not question the correctness of Mr. Monron's judgment in the least; but we should have agreed with him most heartly if he had declared himself in favor of abolishing the whole of the so-called Agricultural Department. Secretary, inspectors, microscopists, doorkeepers, messengers, hangers-on, and all. It is a humbug from the beginning, a useless and offensive piece of paternalism in government; and we declare that the Federal Government has no constitutional power to create such an imposture.

THE SUN ought to give us a few free trade

Nonsense! Free trade with foreign parts is impossible at present. What THE SUN is for a tariff for revenue only, according to the Chicago platform.

And damned be him that first cries, "Hold, enough!"

Possumphat, the steed ridden by HORE SMITH in Washington, and so much celebrated by poets, is described as a rat-tling good quadruped. He is a blood bay. about 15% hands high, weighs about 9 cwt., has white hind feet, a long tail, and an arched neck, and is variously gaited, according to the Georgia style. But his specialty is walking. and he gets over the ground at the rate of seven miles an hour, and is as easy as a rocking chair. He is seven or eight years old, cost probably \$200, and could not be bought for \$1,000 at present. His fame as a walker is widely extended in Georgia, and on one occasion, a man down there, who thought he had a horse which could walk, brought him to Atlants to walk against the great Possumphat But when he saw the horse on the street, and watched him "single-foor" a block or two, he threw up his hands and took his own horse home again, with promptness and despate leaving Possumphat in victorious possession of glory undisturbed.

The viking ship from Norway can plough the seas, breast the waves, weather the storms, and withstand the gales far better than the caravels from Spain. The Norsemen of old were at home on the high seas, and often struck Spain with terror.

A dull, dreary, and rather commonplace man sion than in any other; may, he may even make a moderate success.—Prof. Boyeses.

Dull, dreary, and commonplace men often win success in business, the law, navigation, arming. Wall street, medicine, poetry, trade, mechanics, the fine arts, and knife grinding, as well as in the clerical profession. It is not always the bright josund, and uncommon sort of men who win success in life. A man may be dull yet industrious, dreary yet practical, commonplace yet competent; and a man may be bright as a button yet shortsighted, or jocund yet senseless, or uncommonplace yet an ignoramus or a fool. A good, pious, faithful, hard-working clerio deserves success, even though he be not as sharp as a

The German Kaiser is the hest-dressed mon-arch of modern times. The credit which he receives on this account is, in reality, due to his wife, who looks after her husband's clothing with an assiduity that no valet could equal. She takes upon herself the sole charge of her husband's linen, and she prefers to re-place his buttons and dara his socka.—Lodies Home

What a model wife! What a highly favored husband! Surely mutual love ought to exist between this couple. Ungrateful must be that man if he does not give to that woman the utermost devotion of his soul. She is an empress, too, this socks darner, and burdened with the care of her children. We commend per example to the notice of the married and single women of Sorosis, and the members of he Professional Woman's League, and the delegates to the Woman's Congress, and the eminine politicians of the State of Kansas, and to all other women everywhere who need an example of the kind. There are plenty of American wives, however, who do not require any example to teach them how to perferm their marital duties.

Without the ideal, our civilization is vain.-President Schurman's address at the commencement of Cornell University, June 15, 1893.

It is. But the ideal and the real are not always separate or conflicting things. They are often one and the same. The ideal, if it be natural and reasonable, is not necessarily unattainable in reality. Those of the American people who are possessed of valid and soaring minds are both realists and idealists, as our Acadian friend. President SCHURMAN, can get to know in time by becoming familiar with

> It Is So!

To you Epiron or Ton Sun-Mer If permissible I should like to say I consider The Sun's narrative of the Borden trial one of the best pieces of straight report-ing I have ever read.

One Reports ing I have ever read.

Who Knows! To run Epiron or The Sys-Sir. What is the "t" for in he name of Dutchess county ! That is to say, why is

"A Gentleman of France," a new novel by Stanley J. Weyman, begins in THE BUNDAY SUN. June \$5. Read it.

Connecticut Has Done It.

From the Bemphie Aspent-Avalanche. Even in our day we expect to see Rhode Island and onnecticut adopt a republican form of government.

Don't run the risk of your cold gatting well of it —you may thereby drift into a condition favorable the development of some latent tendency which is give you years offcable. Better care your cold called with the help of Dr. h. Jayne's expectation good healing medicine for all coughs, sore large, a throats.—Ads.

Faster time to Montreal, via New York Central. New time table in edect to day. -Ada.